

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /015 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE - HGILMORE:MD

APPROVED BY EUR/EE - NGANDREWS

EUR/P - MJERABEK

USIA/IEE - RCOONROD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON YUGOSLAVIA

1. MARCH 4 NEW YORK TIMES CARRIES LENGTHY PAGE TWO ARTICLE UNDER BYLINE OF MALCOLM BROWNE ENTITLED "TITO, PREPARING FOR THE SUCCESSION, TIGHTENS HIS REINS."

2. ARTICLE MAKES FOLLOWING ASSERTIONS, INTER ALIA:

BEGIN QUOTE:

(A) "THERE SEEMS CERTAIN TO BE A STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN THE POST-TITO ERA, BOTH BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL AND BETWEEN NATIONALITIES. ITS SPEEDY RESOLUTION IS LIKELY TO BE THE KEY TO YUGOSLAVIA'S POLITICAL SURVIVAL."

(B) "AS ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE WEST DETERIORATE, YUGOSLAV WORKERS HAVE BEEN COMING HOME BY THE TENS OF THOUSANDS. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT YUGOSLAVIA MAY BE PLUNGED INTO A SEVERE DEPRESSION JUST AT THE MOMENT WHEN THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL STABILITY CAN LEAST AFFORD IT."

(C) "SCORES OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO PRISON IN RECENT MONTHS, SOME ON CHARGES OF HAVING PLANNED

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TERRORIST ACTS AND SOME FOR MERELY HAVING WRITTEN CRITICAL

ARTICLES FOR FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS."

(D) "IN A GLOOMY NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO HIS PEOPLE, PRESIDENT TITO WARNED THAT DETENTE, WHICH NEVER DEVELOPED VERY FAR, IS NOT ENTIRELY TO BE TRUSTED. HE FORETOLD A A HARD YEAR FOR YUGOSLAVIA, WITH MOUNTING FOREIGN PRESSURES ON THIS COUNTRY, FROM THE WEST IN GENERAL AND THE UNITED STATES IN PARTICULAR."

(E) "SINCE THE VISIT HERE LAST NOVEMBER BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, THE YUGOSLAV PRESS, OVER WHICH PRESIDENT TITO MAINTAINS CLOSE PERSONAL SURVEILLANCE, HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY HARD ON WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, ACCORDING TO THE YUGOSLAV PRESS, HAS BEEN WORKING AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA BY HELPING NAZI ELEMENTS IN NEIGHBORING AUSTRIA, TERRITORIALY AMBITIOUS FASCISTS IN NEIGHBORING ITALY AND MILITARIST ENEMIES IN NEIGHBORING GREECE, AS WELL AS CONDUCTING THREATENING NAVAL MANEUVERS IN THE ADRIATIC AND HARBORING ANTI-TITO ORGANIZATIONS IN THE U.S."

(F) "THE YUGOSLAV LEADER SERVED THE SOVIET UNION DIRECTLY FOR A QUARTER CENTURY, INITIALLY AS A SOLDIER IN THE RED ARMY AND SUBSEQUENTLY AS AN AGENT OF THE COMINTERN. DESPITE THE SUBSEQUENT DIFFERENCES HE HAD WITH MOSCOW, PRESIDENT TITO REMAINS A PRODUCT OF SOVIET POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION."

3. FULL TEXT FOLLOWS VIA USIA SIGNAL. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE047773  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** HGILMORE:MD  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON YUGOSLAVIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, YO, (TITO, JOSIP BROZ)  
**To:** BELGRADE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006